

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 059138
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:GWCHAPMAN:RAH
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:RCEWING
EUR:REBARBOUR
S/S-O RCASTRODALE

-----018225 081721Z /64

P R 081545Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059138

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON COUNSELOR NIMETZ

1. CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU CALLED ON DEPARTMENT
COUNSELOR NIMETZ MARCH 6 FOR BRIEFING ON NIMETZ TEAM VISIT
TO ANKARA FEBRUARY 21-23. NIMETZ SUMMARIZED GENERAL
PURPOSE AND FINDINGS OF TRIP ALONG LINES ESSENTIALLY
SIMILAR TO THOSE HE USED WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS
(STATE 53213, PARAS 1-5).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 059138

2. MORE SPECIFICALLY ON CYPRUS, NIMETZ SAID THAT TURKS
WERE APPARENTLY PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE CON-
STITUTIONAL AND TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS THEY PLANNED TO PUT
FORWARD SHORTLY. WE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY WERE
MAKING USE OF THE EXTRA TIME AFFORDED BY THE ECEVIT-
CARAMANLIS SUMMIT TO EXTRACT A LITTLE MORE FROM DENKTASH.

THERE HAD BEEN NO DETAILED DISCUSSION WHEN NIMETZ WAS IN ANKARA, BUT THE TURKS HAD GENERALLY STRESSED THAT THEIR PROPOSALS WOULD BE SERIOUS, REASONABLE, AND CONSIDERABLY MORE FORTHCOMING THAN THOSE THEY HAD ADVANCED IN VIENNA IN APRIL 1977. WE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT THE TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL WOULD INVOLVE THE MOVEMENT OF A NUMBER OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS. ECEVIT HAD PERSONALLY REITERATED HIS BELIEF IN A FEDERATION RATHER THAN CONFEDERATION. BUT WE WERE NOT INFORMED AS TO

THE DETAILS OF THE FORTHCOMING PROPOSALS. OUR OWN FEELING, BASED ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT FEAR OF BEING OVERRUN BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, WAS THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROVISION FOR IMMEDIATE OR UNQUALIFIED GRANTING OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND SETTLEMENT.

3. NIMETZ SAID THAT HE HAD URGED THE TURKS TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE WITH THEIR PROPOSALS, BUT THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN OVERLY ENCOURAGED BY THE RESPONSE. WE WERE CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT ECEVIT AND HIS ADVISORS CONSIDERED THE CYPRUS ISSUE TO BE OF HIGH PRIORITY AND WERE MAKING A SERIOUS EFFORT. NIMETZ ADDED THAT HE HAD TOLD THE TURKS PRIVATELY THAT HE COULD NOT ENVISAGE A SETTLEMENT THAT DID NOT PROVIDE FOR SOME CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF VAROSHA.

4. NIMETZ STRESSED TO DIMITRIOU OUR HOPE THAT THE GOC WILL VIEW THE NEW TURKISH PROPOSALS IN AS POSITIVE A MANNER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 059138

AS POSSIBLE AND WILL BE READY TO ENGAGE IN REAL NEGOTIATIONS. THE TURKS, HE NOTED, ARE CONCERNED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WILL ADOPT A NEGATIVE ATTITUDE REGARDLESS OF THE CONTENT OF THEIR INITIAL PROPOSALS. FOR OUR PART WE ARE FULLY PERSUADED THAT THE GOC GENUINELY DESIRES A SOLUTION, BUT IF AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRESS IS ALLOWED TO PASS, A FURTHER CHANCE MAY BE LONG IN COMING. OUR BELIEF IS THAT THE TURKS WILL NOT BE INCLINED TO ENGAGE IN A REDRAFTING EXERCISE IF THEIR PROPOSALS ARE REJECTED OUTRIGHT BY THE GOC, AND IT MIGHT WELL BE FOUR OR FIVE YEARS BEFORE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS CAN BE RESUMED.

5. DIMITRIOU EXPRESSED STRONG CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF THE NEW TURKISH PROPOSALS ON THE U.S. ARMS "EMBARGO" AGAINST TURKEY. SPECIFICALLY, HE ASKED, WOULD THE ADMINISTRATION VIEW THE SUBMISSION IN ITSELF OF NEW PROPOSALS AS EVIDENCE OF "SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS" FOR PURPOSES OF REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IN 620(X)? NIMETZ SAID THAT THE VERY FACT THAT SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN SUBMITTED WOULD BE A STEP FORWARD, BUT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE OUR INTENT TO CHARACTERIZE THIS AS "SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS" IN THE SENSE OF SATISFYING THE 620(X) CONTEXT.

NIMETZ EMPHASIZED TO DIMITRIOU THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD AS YET REACHED NO DECISION REGARDING THE DCA NOR HAD OUR POLICY CHANGED. HE NOTED THAT ONE OF OUR OBJECTIVES WAS TO STRENGTHEN AND NORMALIZE OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY WITHIN NATO. WE WOULD SHORTLY HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON THE SUBJECT OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. ANY DECISION REGARDING THE DCA WOULD BE BASED IN PART ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

6. NIMETZ SAID THAT HE WAS TROUBLED BY DIMITRIOU'S IMPLICATION THAT THE GOC SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING AKIN TO A VETO POWER OVER U.S. ACTION ON THE DCA, IN THE SENSE THAT THEY COULD REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND THUS FRUSTRATE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 059138

ANY "SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS". HE STRESSED THAT ANY DECISION ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE OUR OWN, AND WOULD BE BASED ON AN OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. NIMETZ VOICED THE HOPE THAT THE GOC'S DECISION ON HOW TO REACT TO THE TURKISH PROPOSALS AND COVERING A RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WOULD NOT IN FACT BE BASED ON "EMBARGO" CONSIDERATIONS. IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT GOC POLICY WAS SO GEARED TO MAINTAINING THE "EMBARGO" THAT A REAL CHANCE FOR MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE LOST. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE "EMBARGO" ;AD INDEED HAD A NOTICEABLE IMPACT ON TURKEY, NIMETZ URGED THAT THE GOC NOT VIEW THE U.S. ROLE IN PROMOTING A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT IN SIMPLISTIC TERMS OF "EMBARGO" VERSUS NO "EMBARGO". OUR COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING A JUST AND LASTING CYPRUS SOLUTION WAS FIRM AND ENDURING.

7. ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF U.S.-GOC RELATIONS, NIMETZ EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS OVER SEVERAL RECENT GOC ACTIONS AND STATEMENTS. WE FELT THAT KYPRIANOU'S INVESTITURE SPEECH HAD BEEN INAPPROPRIATELY AND UNJUSTLY CRITICAL OF THE U.S. SPECIFICALLY, WHEN ADDRESSING THE MATTER OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE, KYPRIANOU HAD LUMPED THE U.S. TOGETHER WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT GAVE PRACTICALLY NOTHING. NIMETZ ALSO DREW DIMITRIOU'S ATTENTION TO THE EFFECT OF KYPRIANOU'S RECENT PRESIDENTIAL DECREE IN REDUCING FOR THE SECOND TIME THE SENTENCES OF THOSE CONVICTED FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEATH OF AMBASSADOR DAVIES, AND POINTED OUT, ADDITIONALLY, THAT THE TONE AND THRUST OF KYPRIANOU'S CONFIDENTIAL LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN LEAKED TO THE PRESS. MORE GENERALLY, NIMETZ SAID, WE WERE CONCERNED OVER THE PERSISTENT DISPARITY BETWEEN THE GOC'S CONTINUED REQUESTS FOR U.S. SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE--INDEED EXPECTATION THAT THIS WILL BE RENDERED--AND THE APPARENT TOTAL FREEDOM THAT EXISTS ON THE ISLAND TO CRITICIZE THE U.S. ON THE SLIGHTEST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 059138

PRETEXT, WITH SCANT WORDS OF PRAISE OR THANKS.

8. IN RESPONSE, DIMITRIOU NOTED THAT THE CYPRIOTS HAD BEEN DEEPLY DISTURBED AT BOTH THE DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON CYPRUS AND AT THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO SADAT REGARDING THE LARNACA INCIDENT. THESE HAD COME AT AN INOPPORTUNE TIME. DIMITRIOU ASKED THAT WE VIEW THE KYPRIANOU-CARTER LETTER IN A POSITIVE LIGHT, STRESSING THAT KYPRIANOU WAS SINCERE IN WANTING U.S. FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PARTS OF THE LETTER AND THE

WAY IT WAS WRITTEN MAY HAVE STRUCK US BADLY, BUT URGED THAT WE FOCUS ON THE ESSENTIAL MESSAGE. DIMITRIOU STRONGLY ENDORSED THE IDEA OF A CARTER-KYPRIANOU MEETING, AND UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UPCOMING VISIT OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT MICHAELIDES TO THE U.S. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIEFING, AMBASSADORS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE059138
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GWCHAPMAN:RAH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780104-0813
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780392/aaaaczrr.tel
Line Count: 191
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ff60fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3401680
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON COUNSELOR NIMETZ
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, OVIP, CY, GR, TU, (DIMITRIOU), (NIMETZ)
To: NICOSIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ff60fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014